

Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute
Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2009
SVMHI Norman Auditorium

DRAFT

NOTE: These minutes are subject to approval by the LHRC at its next meeting. Should revisions be made, they will be included as an item in the minutes of that meeting.

LHRC Members in Attendance: Esther Goins, Lesa Shelton, Verna Hendrickson

LHRC Members Not in Attendance: Greg Casker, Jeff Rodden, Thelma Wright, Mary Boyd

Affiliates in Attendance: Maureen Cholenka-Blue Ridge Residential Services; Susan Chandler-Family Preservation Services; Shirley Purnell-Children & Family Community Development; Stanley Cousins-Wall Residences; Rena Howard-Danville-Pittsylvania Community Services Board Intellectual Disabilities; Jim Bebeau – DPCSB Behavioral Health; Monica Edwards-Hughes Center for Exceptional Children; Denise Queen-ACE Inc.

Other Representatives in Attendance: David Lyon - SVMHI Facility Director; Roanna Deal – SVMHI Human Rights Advocate Sr.

Minutes Recorder: Jerri Phillips, SVMHI

LHRC Minutes and Meeting Schedule: The Local Human Rights Committee (LHRC) minutes and meeting schedule can be located on the Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute's Web Page @ www.svmhi.dmhmrssas.virginia.gov under the heading of Client Advocacy.

Welcome/Call to Order: Chairman Greg Casker was absent; therefore, Esther Goins called to order the April 21, 2009 meeting of the Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute (SVMHI) Local Human Rights Committee at 4:11 PM. Ms. Goins noted that there were four members absent, therefore no quorum.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the February 17, 2009 and **the special session minutes dated March 23rd, 2009** will be approved at the next meeting when voting can take place.

Member Reappointments: The committee will vote on reappointment of Thelma Wright; Esther Goins; Verna Hendrickson at the next meeting.

Affiliation Request – Children and Family Community Development: Shirley Purnell made formal request that the LHRC approve the establishment of the Children and Family Community Development Program. Committee members had received information for review and asked Ms. Purnell questions clarifying certain areas of the proposal. The full committee will vote and send Ms. Purnell a letter stating the decision of approval.

Facility Advocate's Report: Ms. Deal reported 3 seclusions in February totaling 6.3 hours. There were 2 formal and 1 informal complaints which were resolved.

In March there were 6 seclusions lasting 21 hours. 6 complaints resulted in 4 resolutions; 2 informal complaints have been resolved and there are currently 2 pending complaints. The special session held in March addressed administrative seclusion which resulted in 66.25 hours of seclusion and 28.25 hours of restraint for one patient. An administrative decision had been made before admission to immediately seclude and then restrain the patient because of prior episodes at both SVMHI and in the community. This will again be addressed by the committee when a quorum is present.

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Facility Representative's Report: No report

Affiliate Reports:

Family Preservation: Susan Chandler reported that three new sites have been added - Grove Park **Pre-School**, I.W. Taylor School and **Park Avenue Elementary School**.

Danville-Pittsylvania CSB Intellectual Development: Rena Howard reported that from October through March there were no incidents to report. There was a Human Rights incident involving 7 consumers which was unfounded. A three year review was completed satisfactorily. There is no change in services. The agency is currently working on more intensive residential services.

Danville-Pittsylvania CSB Behavioral Health Services: Jim Bebeau reported that there have been 2 complaints which were unfounded. Mental Health Services and Substance Abuse Services are now integrated. Behavioral Health also recently successfully completed a 3 year review. More staff is presently being hired.

Blue Ridge Residential: Maureen Cholenka reported that there were no complaints and services are going well.

ACE Services: Denise Queen asked that ACE submit their report in June.

Wall Residences: Stanley Cousins reported that there have been changes in personnel with the recent hiring of Candace Bowman. Further reporting is due in June.

Hughes Home for Exceptional Children: Monica Edwards reported that Hughes Home will report in June and hopefully the new CEO, Michael Triggs, will be present at that meeting.

Affiliates Scheduled to Report at June Meeting:

DePaul – clinical, outpatient, mental health supports
Hughes Center
All Care Family Services
Strategic Therapy

Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled LHRC meeting will be held at 3 PM on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at the Danville-Pittsylvania CSB in the Betty Whitehead Room. A called meeting will be scheduled the week of April 27, 2009 to vote on matters brought before the committee on the above date.

Executive Session: The Committee went into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving updated information from David Lyon, Facility Director regarding an appeal hearing. The motion was made and passed that the Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute LHRC go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code 2.1-3.44 .

Upon reconvening in public session, the Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute LHRC unanimously certified that the best of each Committee member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene in Executive Session were discussed in Executive Session.

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Adjournment:

On motion, the meeting was adjourned 5:00 pm